



## **United States Mission to the OSCE**

# **Response to the Keynote Speakers in Working Session III of the Third Annual Security Review Conference: Enhancing Cooperation and Synergy with International Organizations and Institutions**

As delivered by Deputy Chief of Mission Paul W. Jones  
Vienna June 22, 2005

The U.S. delegation would like to make a few points in reaction to the interesting and provocative issues raised in this session by our three keynote speakers, Secretary Switalski, Director General Carre, and Ambassador Grushko:

As the security architecture in Europe and Eurasia evolves, we continue to believe that the CFE Treaty, as Ambassador Grushko has stated, remains a cornerstone of European Security. We look forward to beginning the process of ratification for the Agreement on Adaptation of the CFE Treaty when all of the Istanbul Commitments are fulfilled.

The Vienna Document 1999 also continues to provide a useful set of Confidence and Security Building Measures and is serving as a basis for sub-regional agreements by OSCE participating States. In addition, it has potential as a model for our partners in other regions of the world.

The keynote speakers called for the OSCE, NATO, the EU, the CoE and other European institutions to avoid duplication of effort. Who among us could argue with that?

Yet concerns about avoiding duplication must not become an excuse for inaction by any organization that can make a valuable contribution to a problem of European security. As Secretary Switalski said, when one organization is unable to respond, others must be able to do so.

The fact is that, as Mr. Switalski points out, the OSCE, NATO, the EU, and the CoE have been cooperating on a day-to-day basis for years through the concept of interlocking institutions.

We need only look at the Balkans for a shining example of how the OSCE and NATO have worked together for nearly a decade to monitor sanctions implementation and verify arms control agreements.

Through regular informal staff talks, NATO and the OSCE have been expanding cooperation to fields including border security, excess munitions disposal, civil emergency planning, and outreach to Central Asia, the Caucasus, and Afghanistan.

Experts from these two organizations are working together to ensure that their programs on small arms/light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunitions are complementary and avoid duplication.

OSCE cooperation with the Council of Europe also rests on solid ground. Like Mr. Grushko, we commend the two organizations for adopting the document earlier this year that is intended to identify priority areas of cooperation between the OSCE and the CoE.

OSCE field presences in many places, especially in the Balkans, work closely on the ground with EU representatives, and there is constant consultation and interaction between the OSCE and EU across a broad range of activities.

In sum, from our point of view, cooperation between the OSCE, NATO, the EU, and the CoE is good and has been steadily improving over the years. On the other hand, it could always get better and the U.S. is always open to constructive suggestions in this regard.

We have found numerous ways to support activities of technical organizations and superior bodies, such as the UN. In this connection my government congratulates Russia and France for their initiative for a Ministerial Statement on the International Convention on the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, which was adopted June 20<sup>th</sup>.

With our Russian partners, our government has tabled a draft decision now before participating States on acceding to and implementing the IAEA Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources, as well as the Guidance on the Import and Export of Radioactive Sources, which is attached to the Code.

We support recent decisions in the Political-Military Dimension to address new threats. This demonstrates the continuing ability of the OSCE to adapt to new circumstances. We should all ensure swift implementation on the commitments taken to prevent dangerous weapons such as MANPADS from falling into the hands of terrorists.

We agree wholeheartedly with Secretary Switalski that the role of the OSCE should be to promote common values rather than serving as a platform to reconcile two different sets of values.

We worry, however, that language suggesting that “States themselves have a right to choose their own national models for putting into practice the values and principles common to us all” may be a euphemism for postponing implementation of these values or ignoring them all together.

In closing, let me underscore what Ambassador Pascual stated in his keynote address in Working Session II on Comprehensive Security: arms control is important, but rule of law, good governance, and democracy are also necessary to build a foundation for security, stability, and prosperity. Supporting participating States in their efforts to put this comprehensive approach to security into practice is one of the OSCE’s greatest strengths.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.